

Mr. Speaker, the Upper Mississippi's health and water quality essential to growing the economies of the larger river cities of Bettendorf, Davenport, Clinton, and Dubuque, and the picturesque river towns of Guttenberg, LeClair, Bellevue, and Marquette. All of these communities, along with farmers and conservationists, have invested much time and effort in promoting a clean river. I believe this legislation helps to insure these investments by coordinating the many interests of those living in the Upper Mississippi River Basin. Accordingly, I am a proud sponsor of this bill, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

HONORING SERGEANT WAYNE
SEITA

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2002

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant Wayne Seita for receiving the 2002 Police Personnel of the Year Award from the Sanger District Chamber of Commerce.

Sergeant Seita joined the Sanger Police Department on January 27, 1975, and was named permanent sergeant on July 1, 1990. Sergeant Seita's colleagues refer to him as a professional, moral, ethical and nonbiased person. His ability to maintain the work schedule for patrol, without any complaints, is enough to deserve a commendation alone. In May of 2000, Wayne was wounded while responding to a call of a wanted suspect with a firearm. Thankfully, Sergeant Seita was able to recuperate and return to work after a short time. Nothing could stand in the way of him protecting the citizens of Sanger and discharging his duties as a public servant.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sergeant Wayne Seita for his dedication and contributions to the Sanger Police Department. I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking Wayne for his exceptional service to the community of Sanger and wishing him many more years of continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE OPENING
OF THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
CONSULATE OF THE SLOVAK RE-
PUBLIC

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2002

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the official opening of the Northern California Consulate of the Slovak Republic in Walnut Creek, CA.

The Slovak Republic became a free and independent Republic in January 1993, and in June 2001, opened their new embassy in Washington, DC. The Slovak people are determined in their quest for liberty, dignity, and cultural and economic independence.

The United States continues to be the beneficiary of the work, sacrifice, and patriotism of citizens of Slovak heritage, who have earned recognition and respect throughout our land,

including the agricultural fields and the technological and academic centers in California.

Barbara Pivnicka, Honorary Consul of the Slovak Republic in northern California, was appointed in June 2001 by Eduard Kukan, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic, with approval by the U.S. State Department, to establish a Consulate of the Slovak Republic in California.

I am pleased that the Honorable Martin Butora, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Slovak Republic to the United States, and his wife, Dr. Zora Butorova, are visiting the San Francisco Bay Area this month for the purpose of officially opening the Consulate of the Slovak Republic in San Francisco.

A number of activities and celebratory events are taking place in recognition of the opening of the Consulate and the visit by the Slovak Ambassador, including a reception at the Fairmont Hotel on the day of the official opening.

It is an honor for me to welcome Ambassador Butora and Dr. Butorova to northern California, and to congratulate and welcome the Consulate of the Slovak Republic to northern California.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the efforts of the many Slovak and American citizens in making this opening possible. This Consulate will be a tremendous asset to people of the Slovak Republic and the United States.

UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER BASIN
PROTECTION ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3480, the Upper Mississippi River Basin Protection Act. I'd like to thank Mr. KIND, my colleague on the Upper Mississippi River Task Force for all his hard work on this legislation.

The Upper Mississippi River Basin has a significant problem with sediment, which has a variety of harmful effects. Sediment is directly linked to soil erosion, which is harmful to the family farmer. It creates a need for over \$100 million each year in dredging of the main shipping channel of the Mississippi River. Sediment fills wetlands and impacts recreation and tourism on the Mississippi. While the problems of sedimentation are documented, there is inadequate scientific data on the amounts and sources of sediment and nutrients flowing into the River basin because local, state and federal efforts are not coordinated.

This legislation develops a coordinated public-private approach to reducing nutrient and sediment losses in the Upper Mississippi River basin. The bill establishes a water quality monitoring network and an integrated computer-modeling program using information gathered from existing federal, state and local programs. This data will provide the baseline numbers needed to make scientifically sound and cost-effective decisions.

Mr. Speaker, this is good legislation which will help alleviate the problems of sedimentation and nutrient loss that are common in the

Upper Mississippi River Basin. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

TRIBUTE TO GIRL SCOUTS' 90TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2002

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 90th anniversary of Girl Scouts USA. For ninety years, Girl Scouts has inspired girls with the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism and service that they may become happy and resourceful citizens. It helps both young girls and adults develop qualities that will serve them all their lives—like strong values, a social conscience and conviction about their own potential and self-worth.

Girl Scouts strengthen our country by developing future female leaders. They offer a broad range of activities that address today's interests and tomorrow's role as women. Girl Scouts learn a wide range of real life skills—first aid, resume writing, and managing money—as well as reap the benefits that are less quantifiable, including enhanced self esteem, greater confidence in their abilities, and the strength and conviction to lead and excel in their endeavors. All of this is accomplished while constantly striving to reach their three goals: values, leadership and diversity.

Girl Scouts USA serves over 2.7 million girls across the country. They are a shining example of what society can be if we focus on teaching values to future generations. I congratulate Girl Scouts on their 90th anniversary, thank them for developing solid citizens, and wish them well in the future.

TRIBUTE TO CORRINE GUNTHER

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2002

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to a truly outstanding individual, my constituent, Corrine Gunther of Morristown. On April 16, Corrine's friends and family will honor her contributions and accomplishments as The Zonta Club of Morristown presents her with the "Woman of the Year" award.

Corrine Gunther was born in Baltimore, Maryland. She went on to attend Oberlin College and obtained a degree in English and Anthropology. She used her education to become a teacher and taught first grade at a school in Long Island, where she also coached field hockey, lacrosse and basketball. Later, Corrine served as a Research Associate for a Federal grant at Fairleigh Dickinson University on a volunteerism in government project, and changed careers again to become Executive Director of the Visiting Health Service of Morris County where she served for fourteen years.

In addition to her professional accomplishments, Corrine has served her communities as a volunteer in a multitude of ways. Throughout her years of service she has served as the